

where it squatted on the lawn. The male continued his earlier behaviour, but finally settled beside the chick and thrust a small dragonfly down its throat. After another 10 minutes he appeared with a large gryllid(?), settled near the chick but did not feed it, apparently trying to entice it further away into some bushes. The chick finally hopped away, with the male still holding the mole-cricket.

Almost an hour had passed and as the birds could no longer be seen, the watch was discontinued. It is assumed that the hen was not very far away, looking after and feeding the other two chicks.

Throughout the period at the nest the feeding started at sunrise and continued till after sunset. The ♂ was never seen on the eggs and was more constantly singing than attending to the young. Neither parent was actually seen carrying away any droppings, but this was no doubt done, for the nest was quite clean when abandoned.

The chicks were not heard to utter any call

from the nest, and usually lay limp and motionless when touched by hand, though all gaped eagerly when a parent approached with food.

After leaving the nest, both parents were now and then seen in the garden for several days (last on 26th August) with the male still singing though not as vigorously as before. Of the young, single birds were seen only twice, and they all appear to have moved out of the garden.

During the above period, we found in the same garden and within a radius of 25 yards, nests of the Crow-pheasant, White-eye, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Red-whiskered Bulbul and Whitespotted Fantail Flycatcher. Though several nests of the White-eye have been found on the adjoining mainland (April to September), this nest (with young on 21st August) discovered by S. R. Nayak, is the first definite record from Salsette. This apparent concentration of nesting birds, if real, may be due to the destruction and disappearance of suitable habitats in the surrounding areas.

75 ABDUL REHMAN STREET,
BOMBAY-400 003,
September 5, 1977.

HUMAYUN ABDULALI

10. NEW RECORDS OF BIRDS FROM ORISSA

While working out a collection of birds from the Orissa State made by Shri P. K. Das in May-June, 1972 and by me in March-April, 1976 and February-March, 1977, I came across examples of four species of birds, namely, *Otus scops sunia* (Hodgson), *Jynx torquilla himalayana* Vaurie, *Prinia socialis stewarti* Blyth and *Arachnothera longirostris longirostris* (Latham), which according to the standard literature on Indian ornithology like Baker (1924, 1926 and 1927), and Ali and Ripley

(1969, 1970, 1973 and 1974), have not so far been reported from Orissa.

1. NORTH INDIAN SCOPS OWL *Otus scops sunia* (Hodgson) (Strigiformes: Strigidae).

Material.—1 ♂, 1 ♀; Madpad, Koraput dist.; February 18, 1977.

Measurements.—Wing ♂ ♀ 137; bill from skull ♂ ♀ 21; tail ♂ 60, ♀ 62 mm.

Distribution.—According to Ali & Ripley (1969) its range includes the lower Himalayas from the Afghan frontier in West Pakistan eastward through Chitral, Kashmir, Himachal

Pradesh, Garhwal, Kumaon, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh. It is also found in the Gangetic plains south to Madhya Pradesh and eastern Maharashtra (Nagpur) east to Assam north and south of the Brahmaputra river, Nagaland, Manipur and Bangladesh.

This is the first record of this species from Orissa.

2. HIMALAYAN WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla himalayana* Vaurie (Piciformes: Picidae).

Material.—1 ♂; Charnal, Sambalpur dist.; March 27, 1976.

Measurements.—Wing 87; bill from skull 17; tail 71 mm.; wt. 32 g.

Distribution.—According to Ali & Ripley (1970) it breeds in the North-west Himalayas from the Kurram Valley to Chitral, Gilgit, Ladakh, Baltistan, Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The winter ranges have not been worked out.

The subspecies has not been reported from Orissa so far, and the present specimen constitutes its first record from this region.

3. NORTHERN ASHY WREN-WARBLER *Prinia socialis stewarti* Blyth (Muscicapidae: Sylviinae).

Material.—3 ♂, 2 ♀; Kotagarh, Phulbani dist.; February 22 and 24, 1976.

Measurements.—Wing ♂ 48, 49, 52, ♀ 47, 49; bill from skull ♂ 14(3), ♀ 14, 15; tail ♂ 57, 66, 71, ♀ 58, 62 mm.

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
INDIAN MUSEUM,
CALCUTTA 700 016,
July 4, 1977.

Distribution: According to Ali & Ripley (1973), this subspecies is known from Pakistan in the plains of the upper Indus river system, and northern India from the Himalayan foothills, south through the Gangetic plains, northern Madhya Pradesh and eastern Rajasthan to the Kathiawar peninsular, the Narmada river and southern Bihar. The occurrence of the present examples in Kotagarh, Orissa, extends its range further southward.

4. LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER *Arachnothera longirostris longirostris* (Latham) (Passeriformes: Nectariniidae).

Material.—1 ♂, 3 ♀; Kotagarh, Phulbani dist.; May 24 and June 4, 1972.

Measurements.—Wing ♂ 68, ♀ 60, 62(2); bill from skull ♂ 35, ♀ 30(2), 32; tail ♂ 43, ♀ 35, 37, 38 mm.

Distribution.—According to Ali & Ripley (1974), this subspecies is known from the Sahyadri or Western Ghats complex of south-western India from North Kanara south through western Karnataka, Kerala and Western Tamil Nadu. It is also reported from the Eastern Ghats (Vishakhapatnam district) and from the extreme southeastern Nepal, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts of West Bengal, Bhutan, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, and Bangladesh.

This is the first record of this species from Orissa.

N. MAJUMDAR

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